

HAPPY THOUGHTS

by

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INTRODUCTION

This book sets forth the fundamental thing of the good life. It describes the attitudes that a young person must have in order to enter a happy and effective maturity.

More than that, however, these concepts are here stated in the happiest kind of way. In the poetic and imaginative phrases of the writer they catch a cadence of his own life so that more than the actual word there is a language of the soul.

—Frank S. Morley, D.D.,
Pastor, Grace Presbyterian Church,
Calgary, Alberta.

The author's radiant life shines through these verses to brighten the lot of those who read and to help them share the fruits of his lifelong habit of doing some good every day to all the people young and old who come within his reach.

—Marshall M. Porter,
The Imperial Council,
Nobles of the Mystic
Shrine for N. America.

FOREWORD

The purpose of this book is to arouse happy thoughts in the minds of readers who believe in The Supreme Being and have become confused and confounded by the ever-increasing multiplicity of creeds, dogmas, and doctrines in Christian denominations.

A number of the thoughts expressed in the following pages were written for our family Christmas cards, hence the frequent reference to that particular season of the year. The final number of the Christmas cards appears on the last two pages.

This message contains full directions for making each home a suitable unit in a Greater Canada.

To make the home the unit,
In a nation grand and great.
Where love and truth are paramount,
Dispelling fear and hate.

DEDICATION

Boys and girls who are patients in hospitals we humbly dedicate this book to you in the hope that HAPPY THOUGHTS may help to restore your health and happiness.

Patients in Red Cross Hospitals or in Shrine Hospitals for Crippled Children should bear in mind that a physical handicap often proves to be a blessing in disguise. Count your blessings, day by day as they increase in number your strength and happiness will also increase. Among your blessings, do not overlook the good will of all those who so willingly give of their time and savings that you may have hospital care.

For happiness is fickle. You will find each
day you live,
No share for sale or barter. It comes to him
who gives.

Many people do not realize the truth of this statement until late in life and then they ask the question:

Who would not fill the world with joy and
gladness.
If he returned to tread this earth again?
Do it now.
Choose the straight and narrow path.
Its love and truth possess,
Be free from anguish and regret,
That truly is success.

CHRISTMAS DAY

1937

This is the day of victory,
Though war drums never cease;
This is the date to celebrate—
The birth of the Prince of Peace.

Call in your friends to join the cause,
And do not fail to state
The Son of Man has His own plan
To conquer fear and hate.

Dictators may in strength arise
And for a time hold sway,
But the Rule of Might can never fight
The Spirit of Christmas Day.

DEMOCRACY

Democracy may be a way of living,
To me it has a meaning deeper far—
With joy it fills my mind and all my being;
It makes the gates of Heaven stand ajar.

Democracy is any form of government
In which the people's will is well expressed;
Where every person strives for that achievement,
With all the mind and talent he is blessed.

Democracy must build on one foundation.
It is the one for which Christ made the plan:
To bring peace, and goodwill, into the nation;
To give the world the brotherhood of man.

On Christmas Day we join in celebration.
This year, instead of cake, use bread and wine
In covenant with God, to save the nation;
Theocracy, until the end of time.

FATE

For forty years I gave my best,
To prove a worthy name,
Only to find my sight was gone
Without one word of fame.

I settled down in grim despair
A fruitless life to end,
But friends came in to bring me cheer,
And strangers to befriend.

When Christmas came the war was on.
My folks were feeling blue.
To give them heart I made my cards
A message strange but true.

From East and West to my surprise
Came messages of praise,
And wishes that to carry on,
The Lord might spare my days.

Forthwith I thanked the God of Love
That in His wisdom given,
To lose the sight of earthly things;
To learn the ways of Heaven.

A LETTER TO SANTA

Dear Santa Claus, I cannot write
So just get on the phone
And tell me when you're coming down
So I will be at home.

Some boys demand expensive toys,
I'm not a kid like that,
Just fill my stockings to the brim
And then please fill my hat.

Stewart, Age 4 Years.

THE EVOLUTION OF CHRISTMAS

THE season of snow and candy,
The time of the Christmas tree,
A week at home from college,
Thus Christmas grows, you see.

UNTIL

The tree with its gifts reminds us
That the God of Life, of Love
Came to earth, the Son of Man,
That we might be heirs above.

FINALLY

With joy and love we celebrate:
It matters not what plan
If truly we commemorate
The birth of THE SON OF MAN.

— — — —

FRIENDLY ADMONITIONS

ANCIENT

When thou buildest a house,
A battlement provide,
That all who come within thy gate
In safety may abide.

MODERN

You are your brother's keeper
On highway or in lane,
The Golden Rule you must observe,
Or Christmas is in vain.

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

The days are growing longer,
The sun is getting stronger
As on to Easter, for the spring to start.

When Christmas songs we sing,
And church bells gaily ring
A lesson from this season take to heart.

As the sun in all its might,
Turns darkness into light,
And makes the days grow warmer, clear
and bright.

So in the life of man,
According to God's plan,
He is the Son, to fill the heart with light.

SHRINERS REMEMBER YOUR VOW

Put on your fez Brother Shriner,
Then take a good look in the glass.
Remember at thirty odd corners,
You were given a smile and a pass,
On your way up the hill to the summit,
Where Nobles the best in the land,
Play every game that is helpful,
To charity give the glad hand.

For Shriners must always be active,
Their aim is beyond that of talk
And strong legs must ever keep running,
In order that weak legs may walk.
So remember your vow made in honor;
To be always manly and just.
And assist any faltering Shriner,
Remember that vow is a Must.

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

We gather round the Christmas tree
With presents Oh! so grand!
The spirit of Old Santa Claus
Has brought these gifts to hand.

The gifts are tokens of good will—
The love that brings us cheer;
The presents made by loving hands
Are those we hold most dear.

The man, Old Santa, has passed on;
His memory now holds sway,
To bring to rich and poor alike
A happy Christmas Day.

Old Santa gave on Christmas Day
To teach mankind to give,
In memory of the Son of Man
Who gave that we might live.

ELLESMERE, ONTARIO

There is a town called Ellesmere,
Of which I always feel
Its iron springs make iron men
And women true as steel.

Of numbers great let others boast
But she alone can say,
Her sons and daughters ne'er forget,
Their home on Christmas Day.

In this we find a double sign,
Loyalty to family home.
And also loyalty to Christ,
Wher'er the children roam.

GOD'S COUNTRY

"This is God's country",
Said a rider of the plains.
Fat cattle grazed about him,
His horse stood with loose reins.

"This is God's country",
Said a farmer skilled in grain.
This granary of the Empire
Full baskets will maintain.

"This is God's country",
Said a miner, as he read
The assay of his prospect,
With reverence bowed his head.

"This is God's country",
Said a soldier to a friend.
The liberty we all possess
Each man must now defend.

"This is God's country",
Said a mother in her prayer,
My son is all I have to give,
Lord, keep him in Thy care.

This is God's country!
And it He will defend,
If we but keep his covenant,
And on His will depend.

This is God's country!
Then let God's laws command,
To banish greed and poverty
From out this fertile land.

UNITY

I trudged to the top of the mountain,
The famed sunrise to see.
A thousand times was I repaid,
By the vision it brought to me.

I saw the dark recede the light,
The dawn in garments gay.
Ten thousand shades, from black to white
As night made way for day.

I saw the sky with beauty bend,
To earth support to find.
Each to the other added charm—
Their oneness filled my mind.

The power of man to make or mar
Was far beneath my view;
That war and carnage still went on
Alas was all too true.

Then came a vision of the day
When war and hate shall cease
And all the nations serve the King
Of Salem, Prince of Peace.

I saw the people give their all
Unto the Lord Most High—
I saw them share the unity
Now shared by earth and sky.

Dec., 1943.

ODE TO MOTHER

My mother was of noble birth.
In her life was that white ray,
Which made her presence felt like mirth,
And drove dark gloom far away.

We always felt her power of mind.
Just what it was words fail to say.
As years go by in life we find,
Our hearts desire it to obey.

NEIGHBORS

The greatest teacher in the world,
Was asked, and this did say,
'Thy neighbor is the man who helps,
Thee in thy troubled day.'

If you would understand this word,
As fully as I do
Just get to know one Hunter Heath
And his good wife named Sou.

A score and five years they have gone,
Together hand and heart,
And in their happy country home,
Have played a worthy part.

Then rise with me and drink a toast,
That they may long be spared,
To carry on Good Neighbor acts
In which we all have shared.

THE FAITH OF THE LITTLE FISHERMAN

A little boy was casting line
Beneath a willow tree.
When asked how many fish he had,
He said "one short of three".

I asked him kindly to explain,
Since no fish were in view.
He answered: "when I catch this one I am
after now and another one,
I will then have two."

So when with rod and line you go,
To live a day of joy,
You must have faith the fish will bite,
Faith like that little boy.

MY MOTHER IS A STAR

A lot of boys live on our street,
My mother says they are fine
And I can play with all of them,
But must come home to dine.

The boys all boast about their dads,
And my Dad says they're par
But I'm the only boy can say
"My Mother is a Star."

Danny.

A CALL TO SERVICE

For a thousand years the sailors,
Went forth in grim dismay,
The earth was flat, they knew full well,
The end must come some day.

But when they learned the earth was round
Their work they hailed with joy,
Each at his task on deck or mast
Would shout out "Ship Ahoy".

Our Institute is like a ship,
Its course must fear no end,
The work well planned for home and land,
Must keep on the ascend.

Demands are great from home and state,
We need more woman power
To do the things we aim to do,
The call's from hour to hour.

If you would play a worthy part,
And win an honor score,
Just do the things you have to do
And then a little more.

(Dedicated to Alberta Women's Institute.)

**The Twenty-fifth Annual Convention of
The Alberta Women's Institute**

A TOAST

The artisans were organized
When history first began.
They built their temples to strange gods,
That doomed the fate of man.

The armies all were organized,
To make the nations great,
Their emblem was the battle axe,
Their song the song of hate.

The parties when they organized,
Had platforms broad and long,
The leaders picked the cushie jobs
And then forgot the throng .

The women when they organized
Were governed by The Book,
Which says, "Make Love your motto and
The home a sacred nook."

The Institute improves the home,
The nation to repair,
To make this great and fertile land,
A Canada more fair.

Then rise with me and drink a toast,
Behind their work stand pat,
To each Alberta Institute,
"Vivat, floret, crescat."

THE BOSS

I boss the kids who come to play
Just to improve the game
Oh boy, what Daddy did to me
When they all cried out shame.

The children always know what's right
If I do wrong, you see,
The other kids will all gang up,
And they would soon boss me.

So now I want to be a man;
Brave and strong and bold,
So I can tell the daddies off,
Who ever whip or scold.

Written for Danny, age 4.

LOVE

Love is a journey into dreamland,
Along a path just wide enough for two.
You hold each other firmly by the hand,
Then wed, and make that dream of dreams come true.

The world has need of many married couples,
To find the beauty along the way of life,
In step, to take the pleasure and the sorrow
Destined to come to every man and wife.

Divorce is for the weary and faint-hearted,
Who lose their path and mire in despair,
Who think of love as honeymoon and stardust,
Then find it loaded down with toil and care.

Fear not to take the path that love is marking,
In spite of all the care that it may bring,
Love makes the home and homes make up the nation—
The nation fit for Christ to reign as King.

TWO WITNESSES

The Court demands two witnesses
To prove that Christ can save,
And give to man eternal life
Beyond the earthly grave.

Then Peter said: "The God of Life
Has Christ for His own Son."
Upon this rock the church is built,
And all its work is done.

Then Martha told the miracle
Of Lazarus the man,
To prove there's life beyond the grave
According to God's plan.

The Court accepts these witnesses
And therefore doth decree:
"By faith and work eternal life
Awaits,"—for you and me.

THE WORLD PEACE

Up from the wilderness came John,
In garments plainly clad.
He had a message for the world,
A message to make glad.

"Prepare the way," he cried to all,
For Christ the son of man,
Is come to save the world from sin,
According to God's plan.

Then Christ appeared as carpenter,
And by His simple life,
Made known to all, how love and truth,
Can end all human strife.

THE WORLD WAR

From mountain palace stepped a chief
In garments grand and gay.
Five million men are on the march,
His orders to obey.
To nations East and West he cried:
"Make way for Nazi rule.
The nation that resists my power,
Will prove itself a fool."

The nations fell by night and day,
'Midst blood and slaughter great,
To learn the rule of Nazi power
Is but the rule of hate.
The war grows fierce on every front,
The world is shocked with crime.
The liberties we now possess
Are threatened for all time.

The men who place their faith in God
And offer life each day,
Will be repaid in their own coin,
By life eternally.
Brave fighting men will turn to prayer;
"Oh God make war to cease,
Destroy the rule of Nazi power,
Let Christ rule all in peace."

The God of Love will hear that prayer.
King David's throne will stand,
That Christ to Earth may there return,
In peace to rule the land.

Dec., 1941.

GRAMMA

Our Gramma has ten children,
Each one of us called grand,
When we are all plain little folk,
That's hard to understand.

To the rescue our mothers came,
And thus they did explain;
It's Grandma that is really grand,
That's where you get the name.

So here we join to send the wish
That her life may be long,
To help and guide us as we grow,
Be true and brave and strong.

NATIONAL PRAYER AND PROSPERITY

'Our Father which art in Heaven'
Christ taught us thus to pray.
'Our Father which art in Heaven'
The nation now must say.

'Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done'.
Our actions straight must prove.
'Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done'.
United we must move.

'Give us each day our daily bread'.
On Him we can depend.
'Give us each day our daily bread'.
He is the nation's Friend.

Let greed and avarice make way,
For peace and national prayer,
Let love and charity hold sway,
With good will everywhere.

Prosperity on earth shall reign,
To glorify His name.
Prosperity on earth shall reign
For this is His domain.

EMPTY WORDS

Our words are empty vessels,
In times of joy we fill,
Them full of empty meaning,
As sacks go to the mill.

In times of grief we're helpless
To share a brother's load,
The words we know are useless,
To help him on the road.

We leave him there in silence,
But that is better far,
Than say a word well meaning
That yet might cause a jar.

THE SWORD

Have you a sword?
These words with meaning deep,
Were asked of men who understood.
They answered in kind brotherhood.
"Here are two swords."

The sword of Life—
The emblem of true love.
A welcome to the brave and free,
Who offer all for liberty.
Even life itself.

The sword of Death—
Grim darkness and the pit
Where Satan and his cohorts great,
Beneath their banners, Fear and Hate,
Still strive for power.

Have you a sword?
Christ calls today, my friend,
The sword of talents given to thee,
The sword of prayer on bended knee—
The sword of Israel.

LIFE

I am busy now on the picture 'Life'
Where I play a leading role.
The picture is done in black or white,
It's the picture of my soul.

Millions of people are taking part.
Each will be given a reel.
In the secret chamber of the heart,
Under the Lord's great seal.

No man is fit to break that seal,
Save the Lion of Judah's line.
He will reign on earth for a thousand years,
Then judge at the judgment time.

He will judge the picture I now make.
My future to decide.
The way of life I hope to take,
And with my Lord abide.

My faith in God makes the picture white,
Though at times I go astray.
My lack of faith makes it black as night,
Though I serve as best I may.

So in faith I walk, in faith I live.
The Bible tells the way.
A reel all white to him to give,
When comes the judgment day.

ANGER

I would rather lose my sight than lose my temper.
The reason for this you may plainly see.
My anger brings distress to kind companions,
My blindness puts the burden all on me.

I would not that my sojourn be remembered
By hasty words, so full of grief and pain
To those who would be faithful in his vineyard;
To make them feel their efforts all in vain.

For angry words find anger in their echo,
While kindly words bring joy in their refrain.
Who would not fill the world with joy and gladness,
If he returned to tread this earth again?

SAMSON'S PRAYER

Oh God of Israel please forgive
The follies that have cast me low
And made me serve a pagan race
With shame and grief no man can know.

The talents that Thou gavest me
To prove Thy power and glory great
By self determination used for show
Only to arouse a nation's hate.

In my own strength I felt secure
Lured on by cunning and deceit
To leave the path of truth and power
To drink the dregs of dire defeat.

Forgive me Lord, my life is Thine.
Use me as in my days of youth
Restore my strength that I may prove
The power of prayer the way of truth.

SUCCESS

"It lies just around the corner."

By this be not misled.

If you are on The Way of Life,

Success lies straight ahead.

Turn not to right, turn not to left,

Prosperity is sure.

The covenant with Abraham,

For ever will endure.

The byways hold the lure of gold,

The joy of power and fame,

But none of these upon life's scroll,

Will ever write your name.

King Solomon with all his gold,

And wisdom to discern.

Beneath the sun found vanity,

His soul for peace did yearn.

King Edward as the Prince of Wales,

Was honored by all men,

But when it came his turn to reign,

He sought oblivion.

Lindberg, Ambassador of Peace,

The front page gave great fame,

But e'er he reached the prime of life

The press had dropped his name.

Fame, power, riches have their place,

But fleeting as man's breath;

They never did, they never will,

Give victory over death.

The Apostle Paul was first to find

The way of life complete,

To give to man eternal life,

Death and the grave defeat.

Then choose the straight and narrow way,

Its love and truth possess,

Be free from anguish and regret;

That truly is success.

THE HOME

My wife is not the half of me,
Nor I the half of her,
And yet to speak in terms the less,
On each would cast a slur;
For at the altar in God's name
We vowed a solemn vow,
To live in peace and happiness,
As we are living now.

The children that have blessed our home,
Straight from the God of Life,
A blessing only given to those
Who live as man and wife.
To make the home the unit,
Of a nation grand and great,
Where love and truth are paramount,
Dispelling fear and hate.

MY PART

I am only one in a million,
A link in an endless chain.
If I let go, the men below,
Will number with the slain.

I am only one in a million,
The son of a mother true,
Yet only I will catch her eye,
As the troops go marching through.

I am only one in a million,
The front line trench to fill,
If I leave a gap, to take a nap
The foe may cause a spill.

I am only one in a million,
Yet I am the only man,
To play my part, with stalwart heart,
In God's eternal plan.

THE CRADLE ROLL CALENDAR

The words my lips first learned to say,
From early morn till close of day,
Were "Ma-ma and Da-da."

These words developed meaning deep
When parents rose from needed sleep
To give me care.

That tender care made me to know
How deep my parents' love could go
For their own child.

Their love taught me to understand
The Love of God at whose command
All things were made.

In Nature's realm great things we find
Beyond the scope of human mind.
There Faith begins.

In faith we ask that by the hand,
We may be led to understand
His holy Word.

A way to man has thus been given,
From Cradle Roll to Gates of Heaven,
By Faith and Prayer.

But, if for earthly things he slave,
His only hope must be the grave,
Death and the Pit.

HELP THE BLIND

Do you enjoy good eye sight?
God's greatest gift to man.
Then show appreciation
By doing all you can.

To give some worthy brother,
Eye sight has been denied,
A share of this world's pleasure,
A life of hope and pride.

For happiness is fickle
You'll find each day you live,
No share for sale or barter.
It comes to him who gives.

CANADIAN PIONEERS

My little boy with curly hair,
At times old fashioned in his ways,
To me said, "Dad, when you are gone
Will I call these the olden days?"
That night, for hours, I lay awake
Just thinking of the little lad,
And how I must have been like him
When I, a boy, was with my dad.

I thought of father and his pal,
The pioneer we all called Glen.
They on adjoining farms had lived
From day of birth, till they were men.
They never talked of foreign affairs,
Of other lands or distant climes.
They simply told of things they knew
And called such things the olden times.

They talked of bees to clear the land,
Of mighty pine and stalwart oak,
And of the part the oxen played
By means of logging chain and yoke.
They worked together, played together,
The same church they did attend.
Each had his problems, had his reward,
But each to each was ever friend.

In Knox Church yard they're now at rest.
When Christ returns, they will be there,
For He has promised those of THE FAITH
Shall rise and meet Him in the air,
As Lazarus did, the man made new—
A thousand years of peace to bring,
When Israel all shall hear His call
And rise to crown him CHRIST THE KING.

THE ROSE

Look to the rose, when nature's charm has lent,
Green leaves and buds, blossoms full and spent,
Some pluck the buds, while others blossoms share,
Others spare buds and bloom, that seed may ripen
there.

Each plays its part, in cycle small or great,
Buds, leaves and flowers, all share the self same fate.

Upon the ground are leaves, there we may read,
The story of Plant life, and take good heed,
'Lest we, made in His image, spirit divine,
And by Him raised above grim death and time,
Forget our heritage when death draws near,
And look upon the grave in doubt and fear.

Oh, rose, in all thy charm and beauty great
Teach us to look beyond thy earthly fate,
And in God's promise, peace and comfort find,
For that alone can cheer the troubled mind.

MY GARDEN

My garden brings me memories
Of days not long ago,
When with my mother in the spring,
The seeds we used to sow.

The seeds so strange and wonderful,
So perfectly designed,
Must to the earth give up their form.
A greater life to find.

Now in the garden all alone.
I gaze upon the ground
And realize that mother too,
A greater life has found.

Oh, garden with thy flowers and fruit,
Alone, in thee I find
Thy ways though only of this earth,
To Heaven lift the mind.

THE BLIZZARD

Of all the pictures in my mind,
There is one beyond compare,
You and I on the teacher's desk,
Asleep without a care.

The blizzard raged the whole night long,
To our parents great concern,
While you and I on the teacher's desk,
Had happiness to burn.

The teacher had no one to love,
No one to share her fears,
And so she shoveled coal all night,
And blessed this vale of tears.

Dec. 1927.

FRIENDSHIP

Old friends may be no better
Than the friends you make today.
You know without a fetter
Each one of them will stay
To help you share your pleasure
Should success come your way.

But if the wheel of fortune
For you holds grief in store,
The old friends are the people
Who will meet you as before
And find it brings them pleasure
To help you more and more.

For friendship is to riches
As gold to brass or lead:
It adds life to the living,
Holds memory for the dead.
It fills each day with brightness,
And lights the way ahead.

In friendship we are given
In spite of war and fears
A little glimpse of Heaven
Amidst this vale of tears.

THIS YEAR

1947

Gaze not upon a crystal,	1
Nor the tea leaves in your cup,	9
Just add the digits in THIS YEAR	4
And know you have good luck.	7

21

Break down this number if you will
To find whence comes the leaven. 3 x 7
The three stands for the Trinity,
Divine perfection, Seven.

These two combine to equalize
The great gifts God has given,
To bring to earth the peace and joy
We hope to find in Heaven.

Let Canada her blessings count,
Let parity hold sway,
To make this year and coming years,
As happy as Christmas Day.

THE GUIDE

The aeroplane has radar beam,
The bees have private ray.
To man a conscience has been given
To guide him on his way.

Turn not aside, wealth to pursue.
Great worry that will bring.
For happiness, find trees and flowers:
Find boys and girls who sing.

Then ring the bells, sing songs of joy,
Cast out all fear and hate.
The people who sing songs of love
Are destined to be great.

BORN AGAIN

"Ye must be born again,"
Christ spoke in mystic vein
Disciples found His words too deep,
The meaning was not plain.

Then Martha, brave and stalwart heart,
Through lack of faith replied:
"My brother must remain apart
His body cannot rise."

But God, of life the very fount,
Beyond all human ken,
The science of the age did flout
When Lazarus rose again.

Christ destined soon to leave this earth,
Thus made it plain to men,
That by the process of re-birth,
They may live here again.

When He shall come to reign as King,
Of those who trust and pray,
A thousand years of peace to bring,
Before the judgment day.

THE FACTS

Let Scholarship her course pursue,
To weigh the earth or measure time,
But in the church that will not do,
By faith alone to Heaven we climb.

The fact the scholar finds today,
And proves in test tube or by pen,
Will very soon have to make way,
For later facts discovered by men.

The facts placed in the Book of Truth
Remain the same from age to age,
To build up character in youth,
And never have to make a change.

THE EASTER BRIDGE

There is a river The Great Divide,
Which flows by The Promised Land.
Its waters are swift and deep and wide,
No man can ford to the other side,
To enter The Promised Land.

A bridge was built on Easter Day,
Across to The Promised Land.
On it are words which plainly say;
Christians only may pass this way,
And enter the Promised Land.

Great thousands join in songs of praise,
For the bridge to The Promised Land.
But far too few will change their ways,
From the things of earth
And the things that pay,
To faith in the Son of Man.

APPRECIATION

When Christmas comes around the year to end,
And write its final chapter in The Book of Time,
What have we done worthwhile to make amend,
To banish war, to outlaw poverty and crime?

We know that charity alone can make
Foundation for a nation well worth while,
And for the superstructure we should take,
Appreciation of things free from guile;

The vision and ideals inspired by prayer,
The bounteous gifts of nature, from land and sea,
The glories of the Lord, the heavens declare,
The security and freedom, by government decree.

These are the things that make a people Great,
And hasten in the day of Christ's return,
That leave no room for avarice or hate,
And Christmas finds the world for which we yearn.

N.B.—Appreciation puts friend in friendship.

THE KING OF KINGS

A king was once elected
And crowned amid great glee,
He promised food and clothes to all
And wealth beyond degree.

The king then travelled East and West.
But ere he went his way,
He said, "My people while I'm gone,
You all must work and pray."

Year after year the people worked,
But found their task no fun,
The king who travelled East and West
Now weighed a quarter ton.

One day while passing down the street,
He heard the newsboys yell
The people all have quit their work
The king will sure catch the deuce.

In haste he donned his priestly gown
And stroked his massive brow,
Said he, "My people carry on
The rapture's coming now.

"You'll be snapped from this earth of clay
To dwell high in the air,
You'll have no need of food or clothes
When you are living there.

"You'll loll about in fleecy clouds,
Or ride upon a star,
Work on! Work on! you simple muts
The rapture can't be far."

The people heard his stern command
But paid to him no fee
They helped to bring his rapture on
By aid of rope and tree.

A council then they did elect,
Upright and true each man,
The people all want work and pay
The good old Christian plan.

The council bade them choose their tasks
The work must be done well
The surplus goods freely exchanged,
That all in peace may dwell.

Then every man worked with a will,
All other men to serve,
And each man owned what he produced
Or what his work deserved.

The nation never knew such wealth,
Nor peace throughout the land,
No man so rich, no man so poor,
But shook each other's hand.

The nations to that regal court,
Their finest gifts did bring,
They threw away their flags and sang
"All hail to Christ our King."

THE CHRISTMAS GIFT

We have crossed the normal span of life
And now on borrowed time we stand.
Here free from labour and the strife
With care, take stock of goods on hand.

Our bonds and titles dearly bought,
We cannot take beyond the gate.
The time is later than we thought
On other things now hangs our fate.

Our friends have been our greatest joy
As we passed through this vale of tears.
They raised our spirits like a buoy
With words of courage and of cheer.

Our greatest treasure is the gift.
On Christmas Day, Our Father gave.
What else could give hope such a lift;
Eternal life beyond the grave.

THE NURSE

There was a young maiden named Kenny.
On the sick she would spend her last penny.
 The men, as of old,
 Made proposals quite bold,
But still she remained Miss Kenny.

THE COWBOY

For years he rode on the range.
To the city he came for a change.
 When the slickers poked fun,
 He pulled out his gun,
And gave each one a close shave.

MARRIAGE

The Bible in prophetic vein,
Says man and wife may not be twain,
But shall become one flesh.
Man, met a maid with talents rare,
And culture with which few compare,
On her he threw his lesh.

They started for their home to be,
As new made ships put out to sea,
For treasure and for joy.
As years went by their home was blessed,
With crops that made the famous West,
And best of all a boy.

Their thoughts so centered in the child,
That hope and fancy each ran wild,
A new life had begun.
To call him mother's made him mad,
And yet he was not all his Dad.
 He was the two in one.

WORK AND PLEASURE

Hard work sure makes me slumber,
Sheep I do not have to number,
To work my passage to the land of Rest.
In spite of rhyme or reason,
It is the working season,
That finds my mind and body at their best.

When I go on vacation,
With kind friend or relation,
I lie awake at night to my own harm,
To know how one Miss Rennie,
With holidays so many,
Can keep her school girl beauty and her charm.

I have come to this conclusion,
Free from bias or delusion,
To get most out of life this you will find:
It takes hard work and pleasure,
Mixed together in good measure,
To give strength to the body and the mind.

KIND WORDS

As I stepped from the bus, at the conclusion of a long ride through Toronto's most congested traffic, I paused long enough to tell the conductor he was an expert driver. The conductor thanked me in a tone of voice that let me know he appreciated the compliment to the full. That afternoon I was standing on the bus station platform, in company with my guide, when the conductor with whom we had ridden in the morning approached us in a very friendly manner and asked if we were making the return trip with him. I explained that we were going out into the country to spend the week end with friends. I also mentioned that because I did not have a blind warrant I had bought two tickets. He said it was too bad I had to buy a ticket for my guide and suggested we remain where we were while he stepped into the office for information. Upon his return the conductor advised me to show one ticket and also my membership card in the C.N.I.B. to the motorman. I followed his directions and upon my return to Toronto got a refund of four dollars and eighty cents for the unused ticket.

I had known for a long time that kind words always pay dividends but never before had the returns been so immediate or the amount so definite. When totalled up it comes to eighty cents per word. This is not too much for words of encouragement spoken to a person who has performed a difficult task and done it well.

Many successful lives got their inspiration from words of encouragement spoken by a parent, a teacher, or a friend. A more generous use of kind words in the home would greatly increase happiness and in many cases would prove to be worth more than eighty cents per word.

RUTH

The eleventh verse in the fourth and last chapter of the Book of Ruth refers to the success of three women. The first two are Leah and Rachael, two sisters, who by their marriage to Jacob became the founders of the nation, "Twelve Tribed Israel" which was the first step in God's plan for the redemption and restoration of the human race. The third person is Ruth, a Moabite, who by her marriage to Boaz established the Royal line of Kings destined to rule over Israel.

The book of Ruth is included in the Bible to show the unsurpassed friendship of Ruth and the great moral strength of Boaz. When these two qualities were united in marriage they became the first generation in the Royal line of Kings of the House of David into which Christ was to be born.

The book of Ruth is a short story and must be read to be appreciated. Teachers often refer to this book as the best balanced story ever written.

ESTHER

The author of the Book ESTHER combined history, drama, and romance to give the world one of its finest pieces of prose literature. God and prayer are not mentioned in the ten chapters of the book, but instead situations and symbols are presented which indicate prayer is in progress and this is followed by results to prove the presence of God.

For background to the book of Esther, we must turn to the calling of Abraham and his wife Sarah to become the progenitors of a nation to play an important part in God's plan for the redemption and restoration of the human race .

God gave Abraham a covenant in which He provided that Abraham and his descendants were to worship only one God, the God of Righteousness and to depend on Him for guidance and strength. In the same covenant God promised to make the descendants become a great and mighty nation which would be a blessing to all other nations. When the descendants of Abraham became a nation they were named Israel, which means "ruling with God" and for this became known as His Chosen People, His House, His Vineyard and His Sheepfold. The covenant was renewed several times to remind the people that to be blessed and made into a great and prosperous nation they must continue to worship the God of Righteousness and obey His Laws. Israel was chosen to demonstrate to all other nations the unlimited power of God to give a nation prosperity, peace and happiness.

The thirty-nine books in the Old Testament were selected and compiled to give future generations a word picture of Israel's experience under the Divine Covenant. For many generations Israel carried on as twelve self governed tribes. These tribes were united with David as King and reached their greatest fame and power during the reign of his son, Solomon. Following a visit to Jerusalem, the Queen of Sheba declared no other nation was so wisely governed, none other so well fed nor clothed and every man owned his own home and the means of producing his living. Peace and prosperity caused Israel to forget her dependence on God and so they began to associate with pagan nations, even to intermarrying with them and erecting altars to their pagan gods. This falling away from the God of Righteousness caused internal unrest which resulted in Israel dividing into two Kingdoms. The ten tribes living in the North continued to occupy that portion of the land under the name Israel while the two tribes, Benjamin and Judah, living in the South, retained the crown and were named Judah. These two nations lived side by side for several generations. Their history is one of failure, conquest and dispersion. The

Assyrians first conquered Israel and took the inhabitants prisoners of war or dispersed them from the land of their birth. Assyria also waged war on Judah and took several thousand prisoners, leaving Judah an easy victim to be conquered by Nebuchadnezzar, who took several thousand prisoners into Babylon where they remained 70 years before gaining permission to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the Temple of King Solomon. The book Esther deals briefly with the history of the prisoners taken from Judah into Babylon where the Persians gave the prisoners the nickname "Jew". This name, Jew, was at first applied only to the descendants of mixed marriages and to men from pagan tribes who to escape punishment signed up as Jews. Esther is here represented as the true follower of the God of Righteousness and is not recognized to be Jew. By being raised from prisoner of war to the position of queen demonstrates the power of God as provided in the Abrahamic covenant. This is the connecting link between the history of Israel as a nation and the beginning of the Christian era with personal salvation. The descendants of the prisoners from Judah who returned to rebuild the Temple were greatly mixed as to race and religion which accounts for their opposition to Christ as The Messiah.

JEPHTAH'S DAUGHTER

Jephthah was the son of Gilead, and in the defense of his country had proven himself a capable and heroic military leader but because he was an illegitimate son, his younger brothers were very jealous of him. During a period of peace and prosperity the younger brothers, as social leaders, had a period of pleasure which was so disgusting to Jephthah that he left the country. When the country again came under attack, society was unable to defend itself so the Elders had to take over and get Jephthah back

to lead them once more to victory. In recognition of his services, the Elders and the people were willing for Jephthah to succeed his father as judge, but were not willing that his heir should succeed him. This created a rather delicate situation as Jephthah was father of one child, a daughter, so it was arranged that she should be dedicated to the Lord in such a manner that she must never marry. Jephthah's daughter became known as Adah, meaning ornament. The maidens of the village in recognition of the great personal sacrifice so willingly undertaken by Adah in being denied a male companion, a home of her own with children and all that goes to make life happy and satisfactory, set aside a day which became an annual event in honor of Adah. This strange story is included in the Bible to show the extremes to which Israel was prepared to go to protect the Royal line of the House of David from being contaminated by the blood of Satanic followers.

The reader who fails to find the great spiritual truth concealed in the Bible stories will make such books as Ruth and Esther into bedtime stories for children.

MARTHA

"If Thou hadst been here my brother had not died."

In these words Martha expressed her deep and abiding faith in Jesus the Man, but it had its limitation. Martha could not believe it possible to raise her brother, Lazarus, from the grave where he had been buried for four days. Jesus then made a complete summing up of the Christian religion by saying, "I am the resurrection and the life. He that believeth in me, though he be dead, yet shall he live, and he that believeth in me and liveth shall never die. Believest thou this?"

All Christians must accept this statement of fact in which Christ declared His Divinity, with supreme power over material things. Religion is based on faith in unseen power and must be kept free from entanglements with material things. Signs, symbols, tokens and ritual, at best, are only reminders of our dependence on God. So-called Christians are divided into many denominations by failing to put first things first in belief and action. The declaration made by Christ to Martha co-ordinates with the Old and the New Testament in teaching that Christ will return to the Throne of David. From this Throne Christ will give the world judgment, justice, peace and prosperity.

"Believest thou this?" establishes the responsibility of the individual to accept or reject Christ as the Redeemer, Salvation is a gift from God. It is capital free from the income tax.

THE ELECT LADY

The Elect Lady mentioned by John the Evangelist is taken as the proto-type of the mothers of Israel. John was pleased to find that Electa as she is frequently called, had taught her children to walk in the truth. John warned Electa to beware of false teachers who deny the Divinity of Jesus; John appealed to Electa to accept the whole doctrine of the Christian religion as was announced by Jesus to Martha. "He that believeth in Me shall never die" is the Christian creed, which means that Christ must be accepted as the Redeemer and the redeemed must prepare the way for Christ to return to rule over God's Kingdom on earth, free from sin, free from death. Then and not until then shall people understand what is meant by His promise;

"I am thy exceeding great reward."

CANADA
CHRISTMAS - 1953



A Final Message

For thirty-seven years we have sent our friends Christmas Greetings in keeping with the leading events of the times. This year, when people are full of fear and apprehensions because the Atomic Bomb has power to destroy the entire surface of the earth and the Hydrogen Bomb has power to burn up the ocean, Christmas reminds us that the Christian Creed is the only security against such weapons of destruction, and also makes it in order to wish you many Happy New Years.

Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Galbraith
2302 Park Avenue, Bowness, Alberta

Believest Thou This?

"I am the Resurrection and the Life."
This is the Christian one and only Creed.
These words of Christ, become a beacon light,
To guide us in our every thought and deed.
"In Him we live, and move, and have our being."
All this we must believe, and daily prove,
Not by fine words, nor yet by dollar giving,
But, immersed in His Spirit, glow with love.

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